

Indiana Emergency Response Commission

MEETING MINUTES

INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

Meeting Date: May 9, 2022

Meeting Time:

Meeting Location: 1610 Reeves Road, Plainfield, IN 46168 and Via Microsoft Teams

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: (in person participation unless otherwise noted)

Chris Barr—Designee for Superintendent of Indiana State Police, Chairperson

Mike White—Designee for IDHS Executive Director

Bruce Palin—Public Representative

Jeff Larmore—Local Government Representative

Shawn French—Business/Industry Representative (*via Microsoft Teams*)

Jim Pridgen—Business/Industry Representative (*via Microsoft Teams*)

Vincent Griffin—Public Representative

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joel Thacker—State Fire Marshall, Chairperson

Peggy Dorsey—Designee for IDEM Commissioner

Cara Cyrus—Business/Industry Representative

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Casey Kenworthy—IDHS

Mike White—IDHS

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm by Chairman Barr. He welcomed everyone to the May 19, 2022 Indiana Emergency Response Commission (IERC) meeting. Mr. White noted that Chairman Thacker was ill and thus the reason for his absence.

QUORUM

Mr. Kenworthy indicated a quorum was present after the roll call, with seven (7) members in attendance.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Mr. Pridgen made a motion to approve the March 14, 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Palin seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

Record of Votes

Chairman Barr—Yes

Mr. Larmore—Yes

Mr. White—Yes

Mr. Palin—Yes

Mr. Griffin—Yes

Mr. Pridgen—Yes

Mr. Griffin-- Yes

Mr. White reported 25 Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) have submitted roster changes for membership appointments or approvals between January 10, 2022 and March 14, 2022. Mr. Palin made a motion to approve the changes as submitted. Mr. Larmore seconded the motion. **Motion passed.** A copy of the roster report detailing the changes is attached.

Record of Votes

Chairman Barr-- Yes	Mr. French—Yes	Mr. Larmore—Yes, but
Mr. White-- Yes	Mr. Pridgen—Yes	abstained from Marion
Mr. Palin—Yes	Mr. Griffin-- Yes	County

OLD BUSINESS

2021 LEPC Compliance

Mr. White opened the discussion by stating that 84 LEPCs are compliant and 8 are not compliant. This is the recommendation for 2021 funding.

The counties that are not compliant are Orange, Fayette, Marshall, Tipton, Decatur, Henry, Martin, and Switzerland.

Mr. Pridgen asked if they were in contact with the inactive counties. Mr. White stated that he and Mr. Kenworthy have been in contact with the inactive LEPCs to discuss their non-compliant status. Martin County is now active and holding meetings. Mr. White also detailed several other points regarding LEPC funding and requirements for compliance.

Mr. Pridgen made a motion to approve LEPC funding recommendations. Mr. French seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

Record of Votes

Mr. White-- Yes	Mr. Palin-- Yes	Pridgen—Yes
Mr. Larmore—Yes	Mr. French-- Yes	Mr. Barr-- Yes
Mr. Griffin -- Yes		

2022 NASTTPO Conference

Mr. White opened the discussion by saying that he, Mr. Kenworthy, and Mr. Larmore attended the conference. Mr. White said it was a valuable experience and he appreciated that he was able to speak with officials from other states. Mr. White learned that Indiana is in the top 95% of all states in the country regarding active LEPCs. Mr. Larmore observed that other states are interested in LEPCs being an all-hazards group. Mr. Larmore appreciated that everyone at the conference was passionate and engaged.

There was discussion at NASTTPO about LEPCs switching to “all hazards” LEPC planning, more than just HAZMAT. Mr. White does not like the idea of Indiana’s LEPCs doing that because they would not focus much on HAZMAT planning.

2023 NASSTTPO will likely be held in Salt Lake City. Mr. White suggested Indianapolis as the location for 2023. The conference organizers were receptive and interested in hosting the 2024 conference in Indianapolis. Mr. --- suggested creating an offer in writing, signed by the Commissioners at the next meeting, to present to NASTTPO conference organizers.

IAHMR Conference

Mr. White stated that due to the Marshall's illness, this discussion will be tabled until the July meeting.

IERC Meeting Location

The next IERC meeting will be held on July 11, 2022 at 1:30pm in Columbus, IN. The location is still undecided, but Mr. Pridgen stated that the meeting will take place in one of two places, the Fire Safety Academy (located at the airport), or the City building.

EPA Tabletop Exercise

Mr. Kenworthy stated that they hosted a midterm planning meeting for the exercise. There was some staff turnover at the agency, but these changes did not impact the exercise. Mr. Kenworthy noted that the exercise scenario was created with the topic of an anhydrous ammonia leak inside Peer Foods facility. During the meeting, there was discussion about how the Peer Foods staff would co-exist alongside Fire Department staff; this discussion is tabled for now.

Mr. White was able to speak to the Fire Chief and Peer Foods and opened the lines of communication between the two organizations. Peer Foods has reached out to the Fire Chief to have a joint meeting and facility tour of Peer Foods.

The exercise will be conducted on August 24, 2022.

Hazconnect Plan Module

Mr. White stated that he was able to do a walk through with the Hazconnect staff and noted additional changes. Mr. White stated that he would discuss the changes under the new business.

NEW BUSINESS

Interviews, LEPC Coordinators

Mr. White stated that they planned to interview six (6) people to fill two (2) LEPC Program Manager positions. Mr. White stated that the office would be fully staffed by the July 11, 2022 meeting.

ISDI Plan Module Invoice

Mr. White stated that they went through the plan module with Hazconnect and the program will be very good for the LEPCs to use. Mr. White gave additional notes and changes for Hazconnect to make. The plan includes 21 functional changes, such as jurisdictional planners being able to add more details to plans, improving the work flow, and notifications relating to invoices.

Mr. White stated that a vote was needed today to approve the ISDI Plan Module Invoice. Mr. Palin made a motion to approve the invoice. Mr. Mr. Pridgen seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

Record of Votes

Chairman Bar—Yes	Bruce Palin—Yes	James Pridgen—Yes
Mike White—Yes	Shawn French—Yes	Vince Griffin-- Yes
Jeff Larmore- Yes		

SARA TITLE III PROGRAM REPORT—SARA Program Staff

Mr. Kenworthy stated that from January 1, 2022 to May 9, 2022, SARA TITLE II Programs have received \$684,430 from Tier II reporting. Mr. Kenworthy compared the average summary from 2019, 2020, and 2021 to the amount received already this year and found that we are ahead already in 2022.

Mr. Kenworthy is focusing on working with PIO to update the designated Tier II space on the IDHS website. Mr. Kenworthy stated that they plan to work on a “frequently asked questions” section for facilities, fire departments, etc. Right now, Mr. Kenworthy hopes to lessen the number of calls the office receives with repetitive questions.

Mr. Kenworthy would like to focus on getting more fire departments in Tier II. Currently, there are 162 active fire department in Tier II. Mr. Kenworthy stated that there are approximately 900 fire departments in Indiana.

Mr. Kenworthy is sending messaging to fire departments to get them enrolled in Tier II Manager.

Public Comments

William Beranek from Marion County LEPC, stated that there has been a loss of focus of hazardous material response in the 10 years since the Bhopal Disaster. Mr. Beranek then said that it was important to get the focus back on hazardous material response because we still have equipment, materials, incidents, etc. that could cause serious injury.

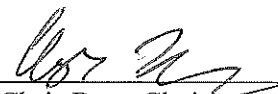
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. White made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Palin seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

Record of Votes

Mr. White-- Yes	Mr. Pridgen-- Yes	Mr. Palin-- Yes
Mr. Larmore-- Yes	Mr. Griffin-- Yes	Chairman Barr--Yes

NEXT MEETING

Approved: 
Chris Barr, Chairman

Date: 7/11/22



